

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #69-18 Building Date: ca. 1916
Building Name: Friday House
Location: 6720 Riverdale Road, Riverdale, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Friday House is a two-and-one-half-story frame cross-gable dwelling, L-shaped in plan. It is distinguished by its wrap-around Tuscan porch and patterned tin roof. There are two entrances in the interior (southeast) corner formed by the gable front and wing. Each door has a plain board surround with edge molding. Each gable end is two bays wide. A one-story hip-roof porch shelters all four of the south and east elevations, wrapping around to include the inner corner facades. The porch is supported by slim Tuscan columns with a plain balustered railing; it rests on brick piers infilled with lattice. The siding of the building is plain horizontal board painted white. The boxed cornice has crown molding, and is returned at the gable ends. There is a corbelled brick chimney centered in the main east-west ridge of the roof. Foundations appear to be of poured concrete.

Significance:

The Friday House is a vernacular frame dwelling typical of suburban houses of the early twentieth century. It was built ca. 1916 on land known as the Onion Farm. In 1909 Henry and Alice Friday bought 14-1/2 acres of the farm, which is watered by a tributary of the Northeast Branch known as Brier Ditch. In 1916, the Fridays erected this house, an early twentieth century version of the gable-front-and-wing plan dwelling with classically plain lines and without the ornate trim of the late Victorian period. Henry Friday died in 1950, leaving the house to his wife. When Mrs. Friday died in 1964, all her remaining real estate was devised to Alice Lawhorne, her niece. Today, most of the Onion Farm has been developed into garden apartments, but the Friday House is still a conspicuous landmark in a densely populated area.

Acreage: 30,344 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Friday House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 6720 Riverdale Rd. ___ not for publication

city, town Riverdale ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Md. county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	___ military
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alice Lawhorne

street & number 6800 Riverdale Rd. telephone no.:

city, town Riverdale state and zip code Md. 20737

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P.G.Co. Courthouse liber Adm.

street & number Main Street folio 19680

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. PG#69-18

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Friday House is a two-and-one-half-story frame cross-gable dwelling, L-shaped in plan. It stands on an open lot in a fast developing area in East Riverdale, bordered on the north by a complex of apartment buildings. It is distinguished by its wrap-around Tuscan porch and patterned tin roof.

This is a variation of the gable-front-and-wing plan: with principal gable front facing south and a long wing extending to the east. There are two entrances in the interior (southeast) corner formed by the gable front and wing: one in the second bay of the east facade of the south gable front section, and one in the first bay of the south facade of the east wing. Each door has a plain board surround with edge molding. Each gable end is two bays wide. A one-story hip-roof porch shelters all four of the south and east elevations, wrapping around to include the inner corner facades. The porch is supported by slim Tuscan columns with a plain balustered railing; it rests on brick piers infilled with lattice.

The siding of the building is plain horizontal board painted white. Windows are 1/1 double hung sash and have plain board surrounds with crown molding, and green louvered shutters. The cross-gable roof is covered with patterned tin, as is the roof of the wrap-around porch. The boxed cornice has crown molding, and is returned at the gable ends. Within the returned cornices at third level is a small 1/1 window in each gable end. There is a corbelled brick chimney centered in the main east-west ridge of the roof. Foundations appear to be of poured concrete.

A one-story shed-roof porch which sheltered the westerly bay of the north facade has been enclosed; it forms a small entry vestibule for the rear entrance.

The house stands on a wide manicured lawn fronting south on Riverdale Road. A gable-roof Colonial Revival brick dwelling has been built next to it on the east, and the two buildings are now separated by the paved driveway which gives access to the apartment buildings on the north. Behind the brick house to the north is a gable-roof frame shed with vertical siding and entrance in its south facade.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG#69-18

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1916

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Friday House is a cross-gable vernacular frame dwelling typical of suburban houses of the early twentieth century. It is a conspicuous landmark in a densely populated area.

The subject house was built ca. 1916 on land known as the Onion Farm. This property (known also as Wildercroft), was purchased in 1909 by developers Henry Presley and L. P. Naylor.¹ In the same year they sold to Henry and Alice Friday a 14-1/2-acre part of the farm, watered by a tributary of the Northeast Branch known as Brier Ditch. In 1916, the Fridays erected this house, an early twentieth century version of the gable-front-and-wing plan dwelling.² This L-shaped house had classically plain lines, without the ornate trim of the late Victorian period; it was distinguished principally by its wrap-around Tuscan porch and patterned tin roof.

Henry Friday died in 1950, leaving the home place to his wife. Alice Friday continued to live in the house, having conveyed to her niece, Alice Lawhorne, part of the property adjoining the old house. On this adjoining property, the Lawhornes built as their home a side-gabled brick Colonial Revival style house. When Mrs. Friday died in 1964, all her remaining real estate was devised to Alice Lawhorne.³

Today, most of the Onion Farm has been developed into garden apartments. The Friday House is bounded on the west and north by connected units of three-level flat-roof brick apartment buildings. Adjoining the Friday House on the east is the brick house of the Lawhorne family. On the opposite (southeast) side of Riverdale Road are several commercial establishments. As a result, the Friday House is a noticeable landmark in this rapidly developing area.

Notes

¹ Prince George's County Deed #49:491.

² Prince George's County Deed #52:380; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1909-1919.

³ Prince George's County Wills GSO #2:113, GSMcG. #7:52; Estate files #9558 and #19680. Conversation with members of Lawhorne family, Spring 1986.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#69-18

CF. notes, item #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 30,344 square feet

Tax Map 43, Block L

Quadrangle name Washington East, Section C

Quadrangle scale lot 5

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission

date August 1986

street & number c/o County Planning, MNCPPC

telephone 952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro

state MD.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PARCEL 'A'
KENILWORTH AREA
HIGH SCHOOL
34.96 A.

6101

R-55

R-18

PARCEL 'A'
NEW GARDENS
3782

WASHINGTON PARKWAY

WILDERCROFT
R-10A

C-0

R-R

R-18

PARCEL 'B'
FERNWOOD GARDENS

PRINCE
GEORGE-
TOWN

69-18

C-5-C

C-0

IN RES.
EXPIRES
'80'

7547

RIVERDALE

EASTPINES

3552

R-R

R-10

WILDER-
CROFT
TEKK

6153

R-18

AUBURN MANOR
APARTMENTS

4588

R-80

KIDMORE PARK

0963

C-5-C

R-18

R-55

3918

121084

EASTPINES

1512

ROSE G. BROWN

KIDMORE PARK

1262

ALTIMORE

WIL



PG#69-18

Friday House
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
April 1986
Southeast $\frac{3}{4}$ elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#69-18

Friday House

Prince George's County, Md.

Susan G. Pearl

April 1986

North Elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Maryland



PG#69-18

Friday House
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1986
View from South
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#69-18

Friday House
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
April 1986
Southwest 3/4 elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD